Setting up of river basin authority

2071. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of drought floods and drinking water shortage in different parts of the country, Government propose to set up a river basin authority for optimum utilisation of river water;

(b) if so, by when the proposed authority is likely to be set up;

(c) the manner in which the authority will make proper use of river waters; and

(d) the extent to which the different river water disputes are likely to be reduced due to this authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) The National Water Policy recognises the need for establishing appropriate organisations for the planned development and management of river basin as a whole. The issues relating to the form and role of organisation would need to be finalised in consultation with the co-basin States. Since the matter involves both the Centre and and States, and legislative measures would need to be taken, no specific time schedule can be indicated for setting up these organisations.

Delay in issue of passports

2072. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take certain new measures to cut down the delay in issuance of passports;

(b) whether it is a fact that non-computerisation of several passport offices is causing delay in issuing Passports;

(c) the details of the passport offices which are computerised and the details of the passport offices likely to be computerised during the current plan period; and

(d) the details of the steps Government propose to take to expedite the task in issuing passports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Suitable instructions have already been issued to Passport Offices to take following measures in order to out down delay in issue of passports;

(1) To check application for complete entries and supporting documents at the time of receipt in order to avoid protracted correspondence and delays;

(2) To issue reminders to concerned verifying authoirties in cases of delay beyond 6 weeks;

(3) Cases of delay beyond 3 months to be taken up with concerned State Governments through this Ministry and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) Most of the delays are on account of delayed police verification reports from State police authorities and due to incomplete information furnished in the passport application forms.

(c) The passport offices at Bombay, Cochin, Delhi, Madras and Panaji have been computerised. It is proposed to computerise 11 more passport offices located at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Patna and Srinagar during the current financial year.

(d) The subject of streamlining issue of passports is kept under constant review by the Government. The State Governments are being reminded at sufficiently high levels to expendite police verification reports.

Vacancies in Lok Sabha and various State Legislatures

2073. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in the Lok Sabha and various State Legislatures as on date with the names of the Constituencies;

(b) by when Government propose to hold elections to fill up all these vacancies; and

(c) by when the elections of Tamil Nadu Assembly are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The required information is given in the Statement which is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix CXLVII; Annexure No. 86].

(c) President's Rule in the State of Tamil Nadu has been extended for a further period of six months from July, 1988. No definite indication can be given now regarding the date of election.

Import of reactors from USSR

2074. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to import nuclear reactors of rating above 500 MW from the USSR;

(b) whether, like to Tarapur reactor, enriched uranium will have to be imported for such reactors; and

(c) the proposed safeguards that the Government have been asked to adhere to by the USSR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) India and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to cooperate in the setting up of a nuclear power station consisting of two units of 1000 MMe pressurised water reactors using enriched uranium as fuel to be imported from Soviet Union. The details regarding cooperation, including guaranteed fuel supply and sageguards are being finalised under an intergovernmental agreement which the two sides are planning to sign in the near future.

Central Projects in Orissa

2075. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central Projects in Orissa for which funds were allocated during the Sixth and Seventh Plans;

(b) whether the entire amount so allocated was released;

(c) if so, whether the amount so released was fully utilised;

(d) whether any assessment has been made about the on-going projects in the State and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any assessment has been be allocated to Orissa for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (e) Allocations for Central Projects are made on assessment of their funding requirements and overall allocation of the concerned Ministry. The funds are released by the Minisry concerned keeping in view the progress being made, which is closely monitored. As per the information available the position of such Central Projects in Orissa is as given in the Annexure (*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 87).

इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में लम्बित रिट याचिकाएं

2076. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या विधि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में कुल विचाराधीन रिट याचिकाओं की संख्या कितनी है और ये कब कब से विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) इन रिट याचिकाओं के शीघ्र निपटान के लिये सरकार क्या-क्या कदम उठा रही है ?